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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Hungary/Rumania/Bulgaria

DATE: *7/7*SUBJECT Danube Shipping
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INFO.

DIST.

25X1 *22 August 1947*

ORIGIN

PAGES *2*

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25X1 Hungary

25X1 1. Budapest. Work continues on the Danube river ships "Komarom" and "Molossvar" (1,200 tons). It is believed they will be taken over by the Russians.

25X1 2. The "Budapest", approximately 500 tons, has not yet come down to Budapest. It is still at Linz or Passau.

3. A third ship of 1,200 tons in the group "Simeis" and "Korkis" has now been completed and handed over to the Soviets.

4. A 2,300 ton ship, begun in 1940, is now destined for the Soviet reparations account. Construction was interrupted by the war. She was being especially constructed for carrying locomotives and railroad rolling stock from Hungary, principally to South America. The ship is being adapted as a merchant vessel.

5. One 150 ton floating crane was nearly ready. It was destined for Odessa. One 100 ton crane was under construction for Yugoslavia and two for the Hungarian State Lines or perhaps for the Budapest Municipality.

6. About 1 May, two 400 to 500 ton motor ships came down the river under the Soviet flag. These ships had not been seen before in the Budapest area, and it is thought that they are to be used on the Danube.

25X1 Rumania

7. Smederevo. Several new factories and a number of new houses for workers are being built in Smederevo. Large dumps of scrap iron are located near the commercial dock.

8. Turnu Severin. Shipyards are working on the construction and repair of three or four barges. A new shipyard was being built above the town on the left bank of the river.

9. Silvistra. New port installations are reported here, including construction of warehouses and a grain silo.

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Document No. 003 CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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 NO CLASSIFICATION INFORMATIONClass. SECRET Exp. 7/7 25X1Auth: 1947 Approved For Release 2005/12/16 : CIA-RDP82-00457R000800380003-3Date 1978 6 1978 By 1978

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10. Braila. The town is commercially dead. The warehouses upstream from the basin were used for Soviet troops as a transit barracks. Restrictions on movements were strict here, with many Soviet sentries about.

11. Galatz. Three or four hulls were lying alongside the southwest pier of the new dock. They were 100 to 600 tons. They might have been uncompleted KT ships. No work was being done on them, nor was any machinery observed nearby.

25X1 12. A large cargo ship which had apparently been salvaged and which still showed signs of damage by air attack was being repaired. [redacted]

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13. At the Naval Arsenal, there were one old destroyer ("aresti"?), several hulls of gunboats and old torpedo boats and the submarine "Delfinul". All of these were in poor condition with no work being done on them.

14. Santiere Romana. Several self-propelled tank-barges were under construction here. One was nearly completed.

15. Salina. Two bucket dredges were working daily to keep the water at the bar to 21 feet. One of the dredges was reported to have had an "English name". There was no shipping here. Pilotage service is compulsory out through the swept channels. The chief pilot is a Soviet major.

16. The Rumanian lines are running a daily passenger service between Braila - Tulcea - Sulina and between Braila and Galatz.

17. The Rumanian passenger steamer "Mihai Viteazu" is still sunk just above Tulcea. It is believed to have been sunk by Soviet aircraft in 1944.

Bulgaria

18. Bulgarian Shipping. The Bulgarian State Lines are making a great effort to increase their traffic and to modernize their port installations. The following ships were observed on the river:

"Siliстра"

(believed of new construction)

"Svistov"

(believed sunk in 1944 and salvaged)

"Ruschuk" (Ruse)

(reported being salvaged in May 1946)

"Dimitrov"

(this was thought to be the former "Tsar Ferdinand", a large passenger liner)

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